

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY REDBOURN**

**MINUTES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING  
HELD ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

**Present: The Vicar      Celia Forbes      David Forbes      Stephen Gell      Ralph Goold  
         Brian Hayward   Julia Jeffs      Rob Jones      Ailsa Hulme      Jim May  
         Keith McAdam   David Mitchell   John Searle      Rachel Snow      Kay Vernon  
         Paul Vernon      Jill Whitehouse   Mike Wood      Clive Williams  
         Kate Ford attended for part of the meeting**

**Apologies for Absence: Michelle Parry Slater   Julie Henman   David Walker   Tim Vickers  
   Alan Simkins**

The Vicar opened the meeting with a prayer at 8.15 pm

**1) Minutes of the PCC Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The minutes were approved as drawn and signed by the Vicar as a true record. There were no matters arising.

**2) Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

The minutes were approved as drawn and there were no matters arising.

**3) St Mary's Website**

Kate Ford, our web manager, was welcomed to the meeting and gave an excellent presentation regarding the website as it stands as present, and what might be done to update it. It is important that we keep in touch with regular users as well as attract new viewers. Kate explained that new technology would allow for automatic newsletters to be circulated.

Tim has agreed to collect information for new pages, and edit the old pages. Stephen Boffey has agreed to provide photos. There will be a facility to make amendments. Kate was thanked for a very comprehensive report.

**4) Group Discussion: What are the five values that best describe St Mary's?**

PCC Members were split into small group to give their answers to the above. The answers will then be collated.

## **5) Ministry and Worship**

We were very pleased to have The Revd Andy Gardner, from St Mary's Church, Luton on placement with us for three weeks as part of his ongoing training. His presence was much appreciated by our congregations and he confirmed that he had learned a lot about a different style of worship with us.

Tim has been on placement for three weeks with a Roman Catholic community in Seattle. It was a very powerful experience for him, and he will be giving a short talk about it at lunch time on the 29<sup>th</sup> November.

The Remembrance weekend activities were very well received, both the films and the civic services on Sunday. There was a huge congregation at the 9.30 am service, with uniformed organisations parading their colours, and it was felt to be a great time of witness. We will examine the possibility of carrying this on in the future.

## **6) Treasurer's Report**

Rob Jones had circulated the accounts to the end of October before the meeting. Although we are running an apparent surplus at the moment, this is by virtue of the accounting procedures for some building works. Income looks low at present. One loan towards the cost of refurbishment of the Old Church Hall will be repaid in full at the year end.

## **7) Safeguarding**

Jan Lang, our new Safeguarding Officer, has attended two courses and has now been registered. Jan is in the process of bringing things up to date.

The Living Advent Calendar will be assessed for health and safety, and our insurers will be notified. A team of stewards is being recruited and will be provided with necessary equipment. Geoff Garard-Cole has been an immense help with the safety aspects. Each event will have a lead person, but we are still open for offers of help.

The launch event will be in the upper room at the Cricketers on the 27<sup>th</sup> November.

David Walker has produced an excellent booklet of all the events which is being distributed to all houses before the beginning of December. Kate Ford has updated the special website.

## **8) Fabric**

The Churchwardens had circulated a report prior to the meeting. The boilers are being serviced this week.

Rosemary and Geoff Woodhouse have given notice that they will stepping down as our Transept Wardens at the end of December. We are currently looking for replacements.

## **9) Charitable Finance Committee**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Dementia Walk has now taken place and a considerable sum in sponsorship raised. The money raised during the year for Dementia UK will be handed over to their representative on 6 January at the 9.30 am service.

## **10) Stewardship Committee Report**

The Committee met on the 7<sup>th</sup> November and the campaign for 2019 was discussed. A plan is being put into place for a 6 weeks concerted period to encourage increased giving. There will be presentations by outside speakers, as well as our own. The new campaign will start on the 10<sup>th</sup> February, and we are looking to increase our income by at least £10000. The Photo board and booklets are still being updated. There will be a further committee meeting in two weeks' time.

## **11) Youth Report**

Ailsa had circulated a report prior to the meeting. There was nothing further to add.

## **12) Ancillary Buildings Committee**

Final invoices from the Builder and Architect regarding the Old Church Hall, have not yet been received. The Committee is due to meet in January.

## **13) Churchyard Report**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Volunteers to help with Operation Churchyard are urgently needed. There are a lot of leaves to be cleared. We have received a quote for the removal and disposal of two diseased beech trees. This will be some considerable cost (just under £4,000), and we will go cap in hand to the Friends to see if they are able to help. It was agreed to go ahead with the work and the contractor is able to start next week. We still need to get an advertising banner made, and an advert on Facebook might help to attract more help with the churchyard from members of the wider community.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with the Grace at 9.54 pm.

### **Next Meetings**

12<sup>th</sup> December                      Standing Committee

### **2019**

9<sup>th</sup> January                          Full PCC

13<sup>th</sup> February  
27<sup>th</sup> March  
24<sup>th</sup> April

Standing Committee  
Full PCC – Annual Accounts and preparations for APCM  
Meeting of Parishioners and APCM